

Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

25th Sunday After Pentecost

November 19, 2023 8:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa

Pastor Stephanie Wood

Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Please complete an attendance card – located in the pews or at the usher's table.

Prelude

All Things Bright and Beautiful arranged by David Paxton

Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

C: Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. **Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Praise the Lord! O Heavens.....ELW 823

1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, adore him;
praise him, angels, in the height;
sun and moon, rejoice before him;
praise him, gleaming stars and light.
Praise the Lord, for he has spoken;
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
laws which never shall be broken
for their guidance he has made.

2 Praise the Lord, for he is gracious;
never shall his promise fail.
God has made his saints victorious;
sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation;
hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim;
heav'n and earth, and all creation,
laud and magnify his name!

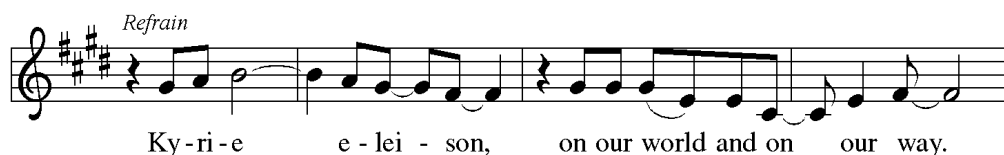
Text: Foundling Hospital Collection, London, 1796

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison, On Our World and On Our Way..... ELW p. 184





Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast ELW p. 187



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



- 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
Refrain
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
 vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

- A: Let us pray. Righteous God, our merciful master,
 C: you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have.
 Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom and prepare us for the joy of
 the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

A: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

C: **Before the mountains were brought forth,**

A or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

C: **You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."**

A: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;

C: **you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:**

- A: in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- C: For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.
- A: Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- C: So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia..... ELW p. 188

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

- P: The Gospel according to Matthew.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

Jesus said to the disciples: “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went

away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time, the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received what was my own with interest. So, take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

This Is My Father's World.....ELW 824

- 1 This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

- 2 This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

- 3 This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

Apostles' Creed

- P: Let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.
C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- A: Let us pray. Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- A: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

- A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

Call to Offering

- A: God trusts us with the resources necessary for all of us to be well and to have our needs met. The Holy One honors us by inviting us to participate

in God's reign with the generous sharing of gifts. Let us offer our time, talent, and treasure to the kingdom of God.

Offertory Hymn

We Give Thee But Thine Own (v 1-2).....ELW 686



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Offertory Prayer

- A: Let us pray. Generous God,
C: we bring the gifts of ourselves and our abundance. Magnify and multiply these offerings to meet the needs before us. Continue to cultivate the spirit of generosity among us and make us good stewards as we allocate the use of these gifts in your name. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (Pastor)

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.

Blessing

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer.....ELW 618

1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

Sending

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God.....Johann Cruger/Lloyd Larson

Interested in Joining Grace?

Please contact the church office office@gracewelcomesyou.org, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.

Junior Bible Study



At both worship services, following the children’s sermon, kids will have 20 minutes to join the fun and talk about Bible stories in their own space set apart from the worship service. Join us for laughter and learning. See Pastor Kirsten if you would like to volunteer or have questions. **Today: Reading Prayers**

Donuts with Jesus



What does God have to do with my life? How can I be a Christian when some of my friends aren’t? Why do we go to worship? If you have a child age 10+ (younger children who wish to attend are welcome) who has these questions, Pastor Kirsten invites them to join her and other students on Sunday between services (9:45-10:15am).

Our next gatherings are November 19, and December 3 & 10.

Serving in Worship

Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Ken Krumwiede
Communion Assistants.....	Ken Krumwiede, Hollie Swain, Kathy, Two NEEDED
Acolyte	Debbie Alejo
Crucifer	NEEDED
Greeters	Sue Janssen, Cindy Lee
Ushers	Dean Rock, Paul Lewellan
Sound System	Mike Savely
Prayers	Sundays & Seasons
Altar Guild.....	Gloria Lange
Jr Bible Study Leaders	Kathy Miller, Jane Rock
Interim Worship Tech.....	Kaitlynn Hylton
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Coffee/Cookies/Snacks	Mike & Deb Kirby, Sue Janssen



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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 19

8:30am Worship with Communion
9:45am Donuts with Jesus
10:30am Worship with Communion
5:00pm Service of Thanks & Praise
6:00pm Pie Social

Monday, November 20

Grace Notes Deadline

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer via Zoom
6:00pm Sweet Arts Club
6:30pm Deborah Circle

Tuesday, November 21

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

9:00am Naomi Circle
10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
11:00am Council/Committee Reports Due
11:00am Tai Chi - FH
11:45am Member Text Study - PBH

Wednesday, November 22

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Thursday, November 23

Pastor Stephanie Vacation Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 24

Pastor Stephanie Vacation Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 25

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Sunday, November 26

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Christ the King Sunday

8:30am Healing Worship
10:30am Healing Worship

Monday, November 27

10:30am Staff Meeting
12:30pm Nominating Committee
4:30pm Centering Prayer
7:00pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 28

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
11:00am Tai Chi - FH
11:45am Member Text Study - PBH

You Can Watch Us Online and Follow us on Facebook!

YouTube: [Grace Lutheran Davenport](https://www.youtube.com/GraceLutheranDavenport) Facebook: facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou

Your offerings support and nurture ministries at Grace along with support for local and global organizations. Online giving is available at bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline.

Looking Ahead

- **November 19** 5pm Service of Thanksgiving & Pie Social
- **November 20-26** Pastor Stephanie Vacation
- **November 23-24** Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- **November 25** Shirley Dohrmann 90th Birthday Celebration
- **November 27** Poinsettia Orders Due
- **December 2** Centering Prayer Advent Retreat
- **December 17** Children's Christmas Program (Joint Worship)
- **December 17** Candles & Carols
- **December 24** Morning Prayer Joint Worship 9:30am
- **December 24** Christmas Eve Worship at 5pm and 7pm
- **December 25** Office Closed for Christmas Day
- **December 31** Joint Worship at 9:30am

Scan for our digital
Weekly Update



Office Closed | November 23-24

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday

Grace in Action

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their pledge cards! If you haven't been able to bring your pledge card to church, please mail/bring it to the church office OR you may submit your pledge online at bit.ly/GracePledge2024. We'd like to receive as many pledges as soon as possible. **Remember:** Once we receive 100 Statements of Intent, a few generous members will donate an additional \$10,000 dollars . . . Your Statement of Intent matters!



A Service of Thanks & Praise

Sunday, November 19 | 5:00pm

Join us at Grace as we worship together with St. Mark members for a service of Thanks and Praise with music, readings, scripture, reflections, and prayers. The offering gathered will go to Iglesia Camino de Emaus led by Pastor Pilar which is housed at St. Mark and supported by the SEIA Synod and local congregations. Watch for more information regarding the Pie Social following the service.

Thanksgiving Pie Social

Join us after the Service of Thanks and Praise to

enjoy some fellowship and pie! A sign-up link was emailed out, and we are still in need of a few pies (St. Mark members are also being asked to bring a few), 1-2 people to host the serving table, and 1-2 people to make coffee/prepare beverages. You can also email or call the church office if you can sign up to help.

Poinsettias

It's that time of year again! We will once again order the beautiful poinsettias from Wallace Garden Center. To order online go to bit.ly/GracePoinsettia2023 or complete an order form (available in the narthex). They are \$10 each. **The deadline for orders is Monday, November 27.**

Advent Devotions

Spiritual Growth invites you to write a devotion for Advent. This year's Advent theme is "Comfort of Tidings and Joy." It will give voice to the complex situations and emotions with which we greet the coming Messiah and use the reactions of those who

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Claudia Wood, Treasurer

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Kaitlynn Hylton, Interim Worship Tech

worshiptech@gracewelcomesyou.org

COUNCIL

Deb Kirby

President

Personnel Committee Chairperson

Kevin Miller

Vice President

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Janice Gibbs

Secretary

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Claudia Wood

Treasurer

Finance Committee

Bill McCullough

Finance Committee

Mark Jepson

Finance Committee

Blood Drive Coordinator

Cindy Lee

Outreach & Welcome Ministry

Memorial Committee

Grief Support Group Coordinator

Jim Bayles

Property

Laura Toland

Worship & Music Ministry

first received the news of Jesus' birth (Zechariah, Joseph, Mary and the shepherds). These weeks of advent will acknowledge how we experience fear, confusion, doubt and curiosity, while the coming of Jesus promises comfort and joy for all of us. Perhaps you have a story to share about when you received comfort and joy or experienced fear, confusion, doubt and curiosity. Contact Pastor Stephanie if you would like to participate in one of the three devotions.

Member News & Celebrations

Shirley Dohrmann 90th Birthday Celebration & Open House - November 25

You are invited to join Shirley's family at a celebration and open house for her 90th birthday! It will take place Saturday, November 25, 10am-1pm in the Oakwood Music Room at Ridgecrest Village (4126 Northwest BLVD, Davenport). No gifts please.

Youth Christmas Program | December 17

We are getting excited about the Grace Youth Christmas Program at 9:30am Worship on December 17! Youth pre-school-elementary school (JBS) through junior high (Donuts with Jesus) are encouraged to participate. Narrators, sheep, shepherds, angels and wise men are needed. It's a narrated program so there are no lines to learn, just costumes to wear. We will meet December 3, during worship to pick up scripts, look at costumes, and take home a family Advent Wreath. We will meet on December 10, to have a read through of the program. Please let Pastor Kirsten or Sally Haugen know if your family can participate.

Christmas Cards

Janice has restocked a number of Christmas Cards in the spinner in the narthex and the display in Pat Bell Hall. Please have a look and get your cards prepared early!

Altar Guild Opportunities

A very important part of our worship experience relies on members to prepare communion, set the altar table, and manage worship supplies like candles and wine. Please consider signing up to help with altar guild in 2024 - you can serve for two weeks or one month at a time. A sign-up sheet is on a clipboard in the narthex. This is a wonderful way to support worship here at Grace. Questions? Contact Mike Keller at 563-340-8990 .

Grief Support Group | December 6

The Grace Grief Support Group meets again the first and third Wednesdays of the month starting in September 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations will be kept in confidence. Questions? Contact Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

Centering Prayer Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. Cheryl Kritsch facilitates the group which meets via Zoom every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update). Please contact Cheryl with any questions at 563-343-0135.

Centering Prayer Advent Retreat | December 2

SAVE THE DATE for the Mississippi Valley Centering Prayer Advent Retreat on Sat. December 2, 8:30am-3:00pm at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center in Wheatland, IA. Watch for details. Please contact Cheryl Kritsch with any questions at 563-343-0135.

Equal Exchange

It's time to think about your Christmas orders! Please take a look at the Equal Exchange catalog lists in the narthex and let Annie know if you'd like to order anything. We get free shipping with a larger order, so consider pairing up with a friend!